

Approved By:	Classification of Paper: Not Protectively Marked
Report to PCC	Report reference number PCC / 0131/15
Date of Report 29/10/2015	Area of County/Stakeholders affected County-wide
Title of report: Strategic Hate Crime Partnership delivery resource	
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1. **Purpose of report**  
To seek approval for the allocation of up to £50,000 to commission a new resource to develop, drive and support delivery of the workplan under-pinning the Strategic Hate Crime Partnership (SHCP).
2. **Recommendations**  
Approve the allocation of funding to commission this resource for a 12 month period from January 2016.
3. **Benefits of Proposal**  
This commissioned resource would ensure focused drive and delivery of the SHCP workplan, as well as driving more effective partnership working and ownership of key areas of activity necessary to improve the identification, prevention, reporting and prosecution of hate crime in Essex.
4. **Background and proposal**
5. Reducing the risk and impact of hidden harm is a new area of focus in the Essex Police and Crime Plan for April 2015 onwards. 'Hidden harm' by its very nature often goes unrecognised and under-reported. It affects some of the most vulnerable in our communities, and is an issue that concerns everyone providing public services, in terms of spotting the signs and symptoms early, helping to prevent harm and supporting those who experience harm. Hate crime is one such 'hidden harm'.

We know that there still exists a chronic under-reporting of hate crime in all areas, with the worst under-reporting from victims of disability hate crime. Locally and nationally, the most commonly reported incidents of hate crime

were motivated by race, and reported incidents of hate crime in Essex are increasing, with Thurrock, Southend and Basildon experiencing the largest number of reported incidents. Hate crime often remains hidden, and goes unrecognised by the wider community.

The Essex Strategic Hate Crime Partnership was set up, and exists to bring partners from across the statutory, community and voluntary and criminal justice sector together, to better understand and educate around the reality of hate crime, ensure joined-up support to victims, and prevent offending and future incidents through education, restorative justice and offender management.

The OPCC has played an active part in the SHCP since its inception, including having led the revision of its strategic framework and work plan, and chaired it since early 2015. Despite this, the SHCP has been slow to deliver on its work plan, with partners taking limited ownership of actions and agreed activity. Areas in particular need of development include the development of the network of Hate Incident reporting centres (HIRCS) in Essex; the production of improved education and awareness campaigns around hate crime; and the creation of a partnership sub-group to review historic hate crime cases and outcomes, and identify areas for development / spread good practice across the partnership.

This commissioned resource will work with partners and colleagues across the SHCP to develop and co-ordinate the delivery of an effective work programme in support of achieving the key aims of the Partnership, which are to:

- Prevent hate crime – by challenging the attitudes that underpin it and encouraging early intervention to prevent it escalating
- Promote the reporting of hate – through public awareness and by building up victim and community confidence
- Increase access to support for victims – by improving emotional and practical support available to victims across the county, both general and specialist, and promoting access to this
- Improve the operational response to hate crimes – by better identifying and managing cases, and dealing effectively with offenders including post sanction

The successful bidder will report directly into the OPCC, as well as reporting into and being required to attend quarterly meetings of the Strategic Hate Crime Partnership.

## **6. Police and Crime Plan**

This work links directly to the PCC's area of focus around addressing and reducing Hidden harms. This work also supports the PCC's aims around supporting victims of crime, improving collaboration and innovation through partnership working, and ensuring local solutions meet local problems, and all of these will be integral to the creation of this resource.

## **7. Police Operational Implications**

Much of the delivery of the Strategic Hate crime Partnership is currently dependent on Essex Police, with varying degrees of reliability and effectiveness. This additional resource would both improve the effective delivery of the SHCP, and reduce some of the pressure on Essex Police to drive the administration and delivery of this board.

**8. Financial Implications**

The PCC would fund up to £50,000 for the successful bidder.

**9. Legal Implications**

No legal implications

**10. Staffing and other resource implications**

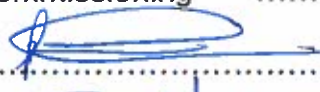
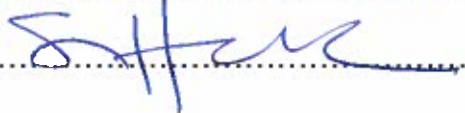
Resource within the OPCC will be required to manage this contract and ensure its delivery against key milestones identified within the spec.

**10. Equality and Diversity implications**

This resource will specifically focus on those from minority communities who are more likely to be vulnerable to hate crime offences, ensuring all victims of hate crime receive the necessary support, and awareness of all forms of hate crime is raised across Essex.


**Report Approval**

The report will be signed off by the Chief Executive and CFO and the PCC Solicitor where legal implications arise.

Assistant Director for Commissioning .....  
Treasurer/CFO *pp*  ..... *(acting 151 officers)*  
Chief Executive  .....

**Decision**

I agree the recommendations to this report

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**PCC/Deputy PCC**

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because

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**PCC/Deputy PCC**

**Publication**

**Reasons for non-publication** (*state 'None' if applicable*)

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Signed/Print name

Report for publication	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

